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The Voice of the University of Toronto at Mississauga

THE MEDIUM

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 21 March 4, 2002

Students asked to pay $12 million

Student contribution wouldn't cover ice rink or fieldhouse

BY TAMARA SULLIMAN

In light of UTM's 30 percent growth increase, the athletics committee has started the drive to get the campus its new Athletics, Recreation and Wellness Centre.

Through a levy that will take effect next year, if approved, ($25 for the next three years and $150 per year after that), the committee will ask students to contribute $12 million to the first part of the complex – the main building, which will cost $27.1 million. These fees are in addition to current incidental fees of $635.94 for full-time students and $173.93 for part-time students.

The entire project, which would also include an outdoor artificial ice rink and a fieldhouse, is projected at approximately $39 million and the committee hopes the entire facility will open in September 2005.

"I'm not to surprised at the final figure, however it's higher than what we would like it to be," said Athletics Director Ken Duncliffe.

Last Thursday, the committee hosted a town hall meeting where students had the opportunity to ask questions and express their concerns about the project. The athletics committee revealed that U of T Provost Adel Sedra will commit 50 cents on every dollar contributed by students, bringing the $12 million to $18 million. The committee was also expecting 50 cents on every dollar from the UTM budget, but the operating budget suffers from other pressures and Principal McNutt could not commit to that figure.

UTM will look to partnerships and private donors for $8 million. McNutt assured that at that point, once 26 million has been obtained, they will find the next $1.1 million to afford the total cost of $27.1 million.

Students raised concerns about the campus being able to find the $8 million from partners and private donors. Director of Development, Alumni and Public Affairs Diana Borowski said she is confident that UTM can raise that money from outside the university.

"We wanted something that was valued greater than $18 million. This complex holds a lot of potential. It's very cutting edge as it just is not an athletics centre, but a wellness centre. We have a project that has something different and unique with potential to expand," she said.

Financing the main building

Students	$12 million
Provost	$6 million
Donors and Partners	$8 million
UTM to find	$1.1 million
Total	**$27.1 million**

Athletics Director Ken Duncliffe noted that the campus cannot look towards partnerships and private donors until they have the $18 million from students and the university.

"We need to show them that the university is committed to this project before we go to them. Once we have the 18 million in hand, it shows a commitment level to the private donors and prospective partnerships, making the eight million easier to attain," he said. "All the research and assessment makes the eight million dollars achievable – we are very much committed to the 27 million and eventually to the 39 million," he said.

Dean of Student Affairs Mark Overton agrees that the $8 million should be relatively easy to come by.

"We're proposing a fairly well-tested and understood concept. We're not proposing an upside-down, anti-gravity, work-out chamber," said Overton.

Duncliffe said construction may begin once they have the $18 million.

"We can only put the shovel in the ground when we have the $18 million in hand. However, we may not do that. We are going to come back to the committee and decide whether we should wait until we have the extra $8 million or to start construction," said Duncliffe.

The committee hopes the complex will serve not only the campus community, but the Mississauga community, thus generating more income. They also hope to work closely with hospitals as it provides an opportunity for sports medicine.

Student leaders feel that the town hall was successful in answering the students questions.

"I think that the addressed some of the student concerns. I believe that a lot of the students were already pretty well informed about the new facility prior to the town hall thanks to what I would say has been one of the better campaigns in trying to reach out to students," said UTMAC President Ian Hazlewood.

Residence Manager Jan Maw agreed that the athletics committee did their best in trying to get as much student input as possible.

"In my experience, over the last three years as a student leader, sitting on many committees concerned with many things, this committee has done the most out of all the other committees to gather student input about what they'd like to see in the athletics building," said Maw.

"The committee circulated surveys that allowed interested students to add their thoughts and suggestions. Student leaders

☞ Town hall continued on page 2

Athletics Director Ken Duncliffe breaks down the cost of the new athletics centre for the audience at last week's town hall in the gym. Ah, more incidental fee hikes. Gotta love 'em. *photo/Tammi Sulliman*

Deregulating UTM fees?

Part Two: Deregulated tuition fees – Student Perspectives

Last Week: Deregulated Tuition Fees – An Administrative Perspective

BY ADRIAN BAREK

Are you getting your money's worth in education from UTM? Answers to this question are obviously varied, but for students paying higher tuition in deregulated programs, this question becomes especially important.

The programs that do charge higher tuition fees, which currently include Commerce, Management and Computer Science, with Communications, Culture and Information Technology (CCIT) as a future possibility, inform potential students of these higher fees via a letter sent to first-year students. The letter explains the Ontario government's decision to deregulate tuition fees for some programs and further assures students that their extra money is being used to pay for a greater university infrastructure, superior teaching staff and a better academic experience in general.

Many students, however, are in the dark as to how their extra tuition fees are spent and what benefits they receive as a result of these higher fees. Concerns about quality of instruction, availability of professors and teaching assistants, class time schedules, and the distribution of the extra revenue gained from higher tuition fees are among a list of concerns expressed by students in these programs.

Kristian Luciani, a second-year Commerce and Finance student expressed frustration at the higher fees and the lack of perceivable benefits he has encountered.

"I feel like I am being ripped off. Last year, I wasn't in the Commerce program but I was essentially taking commerce courses like economics and accounting. This year, I am in the Commerce program, taking similar courses, and paying $2,000 more for professors that I have found to be less effective than the ones I had last year. I feel as though the teaching quality has decreased yet the fees have increased," he said.

While program administrators assure

☞ Tuition continued on page 2

Budget cuts approach

Declining revenue and increasing expenses cited

BY OWEN JARUS AND TAMARA SULLIMAN

Budget cuts are on their way to U of T and they're coming faster than anyone thinks.

Due to a combination of declining revenue and increasing expenses, UTM will only be able to increase population growth by 30 percent instead of the 50 percent they were hoping for.

"The difference is a cut in the general U of T operating budget of about three to three and a half percent. So put together, all parts of the university are caught by having to reduce budgets on the one hand and provide more places for students on the other," said Sheldon Levy, U of T's Vice President for governmental and institutional relations.

The government will not increase the current $5,500 to $5,600 per student that they have been giving to U of T.

U of T President Robert Birgeneau confirmed that budget cuts were coming and he identified the hiring of new faculty and staff to deal with rising enrollment as the main target.

"There will be a very gradual trimming of resources," said Birgeneau.

On the issue of how this related to faculty and staff he replied, "we're not going to be laying off anybody, we're actually going to have to hire new people to deal with rising enrollment but this will affect the rate at which we will be hiring new people."

Dr. Carl Amrhein, Dean of Arts of Sciences filled in the details.

"These cuts will slow down the rate at which we can hire people, reduce the number of TA hours we have to spend, probably increase class size and reduce the number of courses we can offer next year," he said.

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"We're not proposing an upside-down, anti-gravity, work out chamber,"

– Dean of Student Affairs Mark Overton, front page.

McNutt to retire at end of school year

BY TAMARA SULLIMAN

On June 30, Principal McNutt will bid adieu to UTM.

A 16-member committee is working to find a suitable candidate to become principal of U of T's largest campus once McNutt's term is up.

Headed by Adel Sedra, St. George Vice-President and Provost, the committee is comprised of two-thirds UTM faculty, staff, alumni and students. The remaining one-third includes faculty and staff from across U of T.

McNutt came to UTM seven years ago from McMaster University as a geology professor to fill the UTM principal position.

"The position is a eight years, with one year of administrative leave to do research. I decided to do my seven years straight and now I will take my administrative leave," said McNutt.

A principal may be re-appointed for an additional three years, but McNutt believes that it's time for him to leave.

"If I was younger, I could have been offered to stay another three years if the university wanted me to stay. But I've had a good run and it's time for me to retire," he said.

McNutt plans to work in his field of geology, conducting research in labs.

"I will be visiting some labs in other parts of the world and also work with a colleague of mine from McMaster university in a lab there," he said.

"Hopefully, I will be able to have an office here as well, but I'm at the mercy of the new Principal," he jested.

U of T placed an advertisement for the position in The Globe and Mail, which said UTM's new principal should have "experience in academic administration, and the vision and drive to enhance the international reputation of the University of Toronto at Mississauga. As CEO of the University of Toronto at Mississauga the Principal will be accountable to the President and Provost of the University of Toronto."

McNutt gets ready to hang up his hat as UTM's principal. *photo/Melissa Verge*

The committee is considering candidates both outside and inside U of T. McNutt believes that they will find the appropriate individual to replace him before June 30.

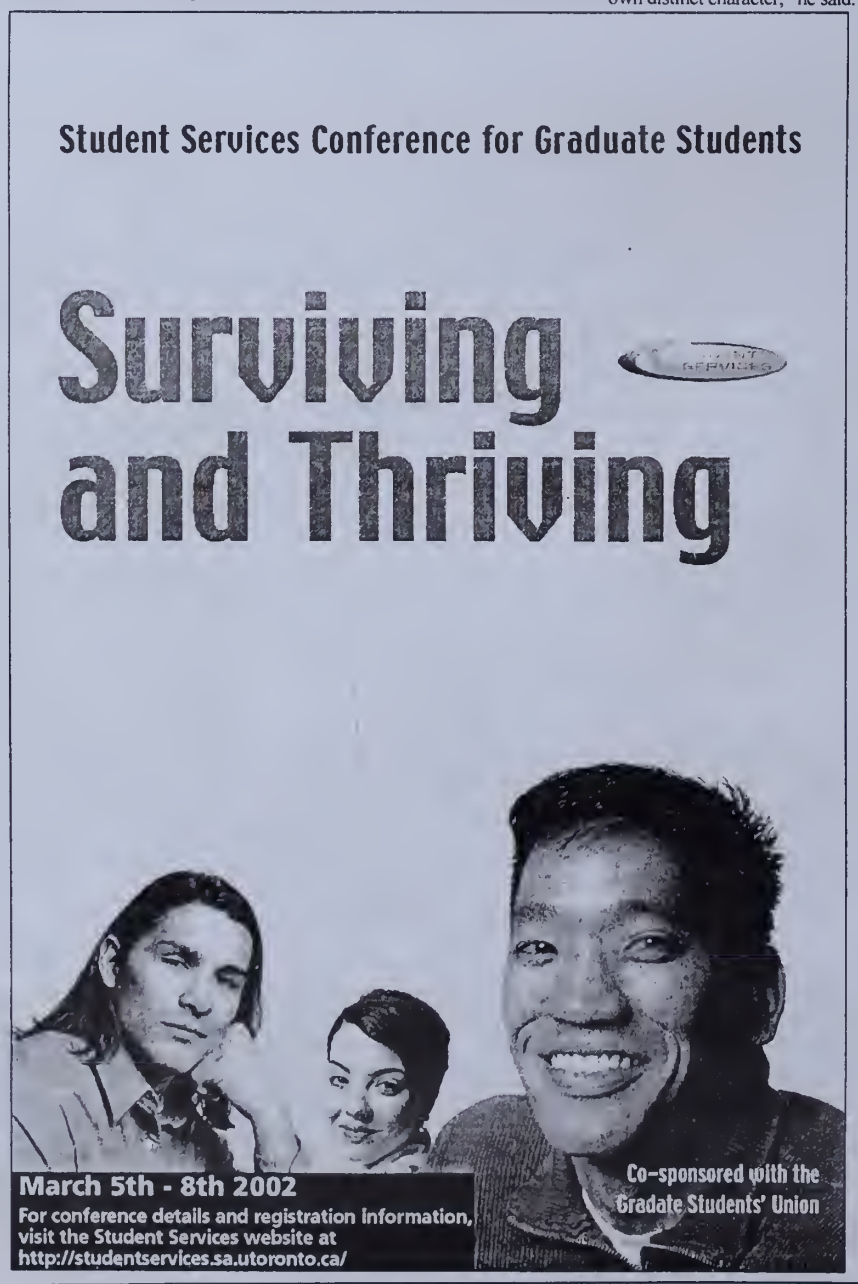
"I think they'll be successful in finding a suitable candidate in time. They start interviewing this week I believe and I hear there are some good people. However, if they don't find someone before June 30, one option is to ask me to stay," he said.

The official start date for the new principal is July 1 but McNutt hopes they find someone before then.

"If they find someone a month earlier, then the person can start acclimatizing with the UTM community. I would be able to help the candidate familiarize with staff, faculty and students and the job here at hand."

On his experience as UTM Principal, McNutt said, "It's been a great, interesting and challenging job. This campus is unique as it works with the downtown campus but it also has it's own character.

"U of T is a great big complicated university and UTM has a lot of potential for the future where growth is concerned. Because of distance between downtown and UTM, it allows us to develop our own distinct character," he said.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Town hall informs

continued from front

have also brought back suggests from their constituents to the committee."

On Friday, at Quality Services to Students (QSS), the athletics committee will put forward the proposed fee increase and student leaders will have to decide whether or not the fee should be implemented by vote at QSS or through a student referendum. If QSS decides to vote on the levy itself, student leaders will use the feedback generated from the town hall as a basis for their votes.

"Without QSS's endorsement, I don't feel comfortable sending it to referendum. That's somewhat because the members of QSS are the most involved and informed. Those are the people we believe have the most information," said Overton.

Hazlewood thinks that if the facility is to become a reality, students will have to bear some of the costs.

"I know that I have talked to individuals who are both in favour of and against the project. Being president of the UTM Athletics Council I believe that the majority of my constituents are in favour of this project," said Hazlewood.

"I know that there are individuals who are wary of such a large fee increase, and I can understand their concern. I do however think that if we want to have such a facility on this campus, students are going to have to shoulder some of the financial burdens."

However, Hazlewood feels that the proposed budget for the new complex could be tweaked.

"I think the project committee has come up with a more than fair financing plan in an effort to build this building. But, when most other universities and colleges pay for 90 percent of their buildings, the approximately 30 percent that the students of UTM will have to pay is a great deal," he said.

"I think it's unfortunate that UTM students are going to have to pay more for their athletics fees than the rest of the University of Toronto, but the size of our school limits the funds that can be raised. The small size of the school does however create a benefit in the fact that there will not be as many students who want to use the building."

Maw said he will vote in favour of the facility if the vote says within QSS.

"I believe [the cost] is fairly distributed between students today and the students that will being using the facility. Personally speaking, the levy we obtained is very fair and for the facility we will be getting in return, a very good investment of student money," he said.

Association of Graduate Students at Erindale (AGSAE) Co-President Tina Mann said she will make her decision after receiving more feedback from her constituents.

"The town hall meeting was very positive. Students were concerned and asked a lot of relevant questions, but seemed very supportive of the project. I think I will vote in support of the levy," she said.

"However, there is plenty of time for graduate students or other students for that matter to contact me. My mind is certainly not made up and any large amount of support or opposition would sway my position."

Tuition fees differ

continued from front

students of higher education for their extra money, many students are yet to be convinced.

"I understand the argument that students in these programs will be more marketable once they graduate and I wouldn't mind paying more money to get that, but thus far I haven't seen anything to make me believe I'm receiving a better education than anyone else," said Andrea Lopes, a third-year Management and Psychology student.

"When I compare the different courses in my two programs, I don't find anything extra or more beneficial in my management courses compared with my psych courses. I pay less for my psychology courses but they are just as good, if not better, than my management courses. I have also had problems with a few professors in the management program and how they convey information to students. This really concerns me because I know that one of the things the university says it uses the extra money for is providing the best possible professors."

While many students have expressed concerns over paying higher tuition fees for their programs, others understand and accept the higher fees. Rick McLaren, a second-year CCIT and Sociology student, expressed his understanding of the higher tuition fees for the CCIT program.

"As long as we are truly getting something out of our extra money, like greater marketability to employers, then I don't mind paying the extra money. To me it's simply paying more now to receive more later so it's an acceptable return on investment. Especially with CCIT, I can understand if they decide to charge us higher tuition than other programs – it's a new program and we benefit from a lot of things that other students don't. The new computer labs, web-based resources, unique course material, the joint courses with Sheridan – all these things benefit us but obviously somebody has to pay for them," he said.

Whether or not the benefits of paying higher tuition are perceivable, the greatest concern for many students paying higher tuition fees is that not all of the extra money goes to their program. Of the extra money paid by students in deregulated programs, a portion is paid to both UTM and the university as a whole, while other portions of the money go to the respective programs and to students in the form of scholarships. Paying more money to the university as a whole has angered many students.

"The fact that we pay more money to the university makes no sense. If I am going to pay extra for my major, then the money should go to my program and benefit me," said Lopes. "Why should I pay more money to the university to support other causes that I have nothing to do with and from which I gain nothing? I don't mind paying extra money when it goes to causes that benefit myself, like supporting the Student Management Association (SMA). That makes sense because they run events that are very helpful to me and other students in my program."

Supporting the SMA, the Commerce Association of Students at Erindale (CASE) and other program-related student organizations is something the Commerce and Management departments have identified as one area supported by higher tuition fees. The level of support actually provided to the organizations by the department has been questioned by SMA president Stephanie Orr.

"The SMA has received a slightly higher budget but it's really not significant considering the amount of extra revenue being received from the students paying higher tuition fees. The management department has been able to give us more money but in reality we are only talking about a couple of thousand dollars. For example, the SMA is given a strict budget for employer recruiting events and expected to raise the money from companies to hold these seminars. That means that the companies are coming into the campus to put on presentations also have to pay for the presentations," she said.

As with many other issues at U of T, deregulated tuition fees has pitted the opinions of administration against those of the students. Whether or not these programs truly give students more education for their money seems irrelevant to the many students who struggle to pay the high price of university education – deregulated or not.

U of T budgets face cuts

continued from front

said.

These cuts are going to hit the hardest in the most frequently taken programs and courses such as history, english and first- and second-year sciences.

Regarding Erindale's expansion plans, Amrhein said, "I don't think Mississauga will get enough [of a] funding increase as fast as it planned. I think the enrollment increase is going to be more like 30 percent."

This number is less than two thirds of the 50 percent that Mississauga originally planned on increasing its student body by to meet the pressure of enrollment growth. Dean Amrhein was very blunt with what the results of this will be.

"I don't see how the Ontario government is going to be able to fulfill its commitment to ensure that every qualified student gets [a place] at a university," he said.

UTM Principal Robert McNutt noted that the 30 percent increase still represents a significant enrolment growth.

"In my seven years of being principal, we have only grown by five percent. 30 percent is a large number to grow by," he said.

McNutt feels that the government is unrealistic as to the future growth and participation rate of students attending university.

"We are committed for thirty percent for full average funding from the government. However, there is disagreement about how fast the student growth rate is going to grow between the university and the government. We think it's going to grow faster than the government thinks," said McNutt.

"The university participation rate is going to go up faster than they think. We originally thought we would grow by fifty percent, but the government is funding only up to thirty percent."

McNutt added that it's up to the government how fast the campus grows, as the campus budget relies on the provincial government funding.

"It's a question of choice and we can't grow as fast as we can by choice. We're saying we have to cap growth at thirty percent because there's just no more room for students in the university," he said.

"We can't expand more than that because the government will only give us funding up to thirty percent. If we were to accept more students than that, it would put a strain on places like our library, which is not equipped for that many students. We can't conceive going any more than thirty percent until we get more money."

Levy denied that the suburban campuses (Erindale and Scarborough) would be hit any harder than the downtown campuses.

"The growth places like the suburban campuses are being treated fairly and the net impact on them will be no different than the downtown campus. They will have the same level cut to deal with but will receive funding for their growth."

Reaction from student groups was swift, Alex Kemer president of the Students' Administrative Council (SAC) expressed concern that the university and senior levels of government may "use the budget cuts as an excuse to raise tuition fees significantly [thereby making] education unaffordable for low income students."

Kemer also put a considerable amount of blame on the doorstep of U of T administration.

"Universities have been silent for the most part [on low government funding] or even complicit," he said.

The St. George campus may have to attempt to admit more students to meet the demands of increasing growth if Erindale's expansion is cut in half. Said Amrhein, "[Our plan] called for the St. George campus to take on an extra 800 students per year for the next four years. If there is no effect [on the current situation with Erindale], St. George will take the students on for a longer period of time."

Amrhein also added that the St. George campus has not planned to handle 800 extra students for an extended period of time.

The new round of cuts are necessary due to U of T's budget suffering a combination of revenue losses and cost increases. The Ontario government does not provide funds for inflation, health care benefit costs that have spiraled up by almost $50 million over the past five years and a low return on investments due to low interest rates and the slumping economy.

Levy summed up the effects of these budget setbacks.

"Put together, all parts of the university are caught by having to reduce budgets on the one hand and provide more places for students on the other. With most of our money in salaries, it is expected that the implication is the student to faculty ratio gets worse," he said.

McNutt noted that these cuts would affect the quality of education that students receive.

"Of course if there are fewer TAs, fewer professors and larger classroom sizes, the quality of teaching given to students will suffer," he said.

Responding to a question about U of T not getting funding from the Ontario government to cover inflation, Birgeneau issued a plea that U of T needed "helpful political action with this."

According to Levy, the university has been pressuring the Ontario government on this issue for a long time.

"We have advocated strongly to the government that both fees and grants should go up by inflation. But to date we have had no success," he said.

Whether the provincial government (after it elects its new premier on March 23) will heed the pleas has yet to be seen.

For UTM, this means a two to three percent cut of the campus' operating budget so that the university doesn't fall to debt.

Levy feels that U of T needs not only a four percent per year increase to cover inflation, but it has to be allowed to increase tuition by at least four percent each year just to keep up. This would only keep the university on par and barely that said Levy.

"We would be reasonably 'okay' but please keep in mind that reasonably 'okay' is still being in the province that funds its universities the worst. In other words, with four percent, we don't slip further," he said.

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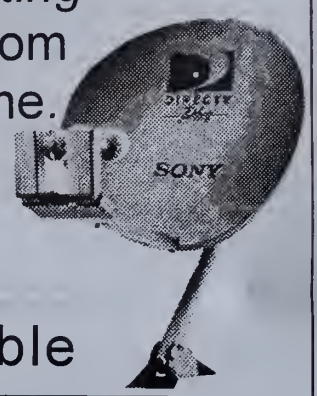

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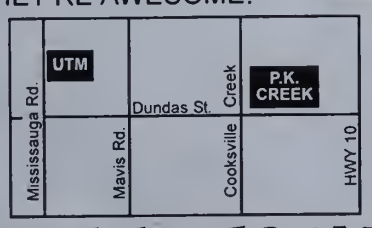

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Editorial

THE MEDIUM

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Don't forget 'bout us

EDITORIAL

In the midst of all the committee meetings, decision-making and other endless preparations for campus growth and enrollment expansion, one issue that seems to get clouded over or sent to the background, from a student's point of view anyway, is skyrocketing fees (tuition, incidental and ancillary) and the quality of education at UTM.

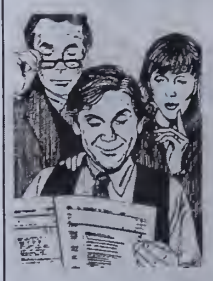
In conjunction with UTM's current drive for a new athletics complex, which would cost students significantly higher annual fees, U of T President Robert Birgeneau confirmed that the university will be making several budget cuts to compensate for the costs of expansion and the discrepancy between the amount of money U of T expected from the provincial government and what the provincial government actually handed us. And as a result of these cuts, UTM will expand by 30 percent rather than 50 percent, as it initially expected.

UTM Principal Robert McNutt thinks the Tories are underestimating the speed of the university enrollment boom. Regardless of how quickly new students will flood into the post-secondary system, students are the ones getting screwed here. In all of this talk about budget cuts and new student levies, the bottom line is that UTM students in the near future will pay higher fees and get less for their money – when it comes to class sizes and the resulting decrease in the quality of education.

The funny thing is that, with something as unfortunate as a probable increase in the student to faculty ratio, UTM's recruiting department won't have to sweat as hard trying to lure high school kids to this campus – the supply curve will take a hit and the demand for admission will explode.

We just hope this being-needed-more-than-you-need-others feeling doesn't go to U of T's head. UTM will soon have to shoulder an extra load of students – we hope this won't put a chip there. And we hope our campus and our university won't use this as an excuse to cultivate a carefree attitude towards students and the exponentially increasing fees they pay every year.

"What a great experience!"



"I've never had so much fun in my life!"

"I learned so much!"

MEDIUM ELECTIONS

The Medium will be holding elections for all 2002-2003 editorial board positions during the week of April 1. Editor-in-Chief and News, Sports, Arts, Features, Photo, and Composite Editor positions are up for grabs. Nomination forms will be available from March 25-29. Start volunteering now if interested. Call 905-828-5260 or come by our office (room 200 in the Student Centre).

The Medium is published weekly by Medium II Publications, a non-profit, incorporated student organization. The opinions expressed within are those of the writers and editors and do not necessarily reflect those of Medium II Publications. **The Medium**'s mandate includes informing students of local and national concerns, and giving Erindale College students an opportunity to practice journalism. National advertising provided exclusively by Campus Network. Humping animals courtesy of Cyrus Irani.

Boston Pizza on Friday. Trev's boyish looks got us carded. We couldn't get the giant pitcher this time. Damn. Jackie gets baseball caps by asking strange random guys to give her their hats. The advantages of being a girl. At least we can pee standing up. I don't think I've said anything nice about Tammi at all in the blurb this year so here it is. Good work. I'm proud of you. But we're not gonna stop mocking you.) Sean, your rants are getting lamer every week. Keeanu Reeves hasn't been around the office in a while. Melissa, I like the McNutt picture. I never said I didn't.) Tammi says she'es nervous about ads – don't ask, I don't get it either. The Leafs are fucked. Fuck. Send me an angel. Send me an angel...right now. Home stretch.

Our two wishes...

That this doesn't become the average class:

That this doesn't become U of T's top priority:

Tuition fee deregulation policy not new at all

Dear Editor,

The Medium's story, 'Deregulating UTM fees?' correctly noted that despite recent media attention to the policy of deregulating tuition fees, the policy is not new. Tuition fees for graduate, post-diploma, and professional programs were first deregulated by the Ontario government in 1998.

Since then, tuition fees for many of these programs have doubled, tripled, and even quadrupled. The Ontario government deregulated tuition fees, removing limits to increases, precisely because it is neglecting its responsibility to fund post-secondary education adequately. Since delivering its devastating $400 million cut to colleges and universities in 1996, the Ontario government has re-invested little.

In fact, Ontario currently has the lowest per capita funding for post-secondary education in all of Canada. Proponents of deregulation argue that students in deregulated programs are more 'marketable' upon graduation and thus, should pay more.

Of course, high future earnings do nothing to improve the sticker price of higher education and thus, accessibility. Proponents also argue that higher tuition fees ensure quality. Simply put, this claim is false. Ontario, for example, has the second highest tuition fees and the worst student-professor ratios in the country. The complicity of university administrators in advancing arguments supportive of deregulation is telling. By acquiescing to the government's policy of deregulating tuition fees, administrators have reduced themselves to institutional fundraisers and apologists for the selling off of public education by stealth. That universities must 'set aside' one-third of tuition fees for bursaries and scholarships speaks to the need for a broader, provincial program of up-front, needs-based grants. Forcing students into debt to fund their own student aid is logically flawed and fundamentally inequitable.

At a time when Canada is facing a shortage of one million skilled workers by 2020, one would think that our governments would re-invest in post-secondary education and make accessibility a priority. Instead, governments and administrators have allowed tuition fees to skyrocket.

At the same time, it has been proven that students from middle and lower income backgrounds are gradually disappearing from post-secondary education. Unless Ontario students unite and swiftly take collective action, we will be facing the same attacks as students in British Columbia, where the government just announced its intention to fully deregulate all tuition fees.

Richard Telfer
Ontario National Executive Representative,
Canadian Federation of Students

Another rambling O'Leary rant

Opinion

By Sean O' Leary

Attention all students who use the Meeting Place, Student Centre and North Building. Your mommy doesn't work here, so pick up your own garbage. It's not all that hard. Here's how it works:

– Purchase item (i.e. Tim Horton's coffee cups)
– Use item
– Retain empty cup (this part is essential)
– Find those grey bins you see everywhere (these are called garbage bins and are for depositing garbage. I will explain 'recycling' next week).
– Place empty cup into grey bin.
– Repeat as necessary.

This can apply to a lot more just coffee cups. I think I finally know who the 'wash-rinse-repeat' instructions on shampoo are for.

Elections are coming up and many people are asking who is running. While writing about that would break rules for campaigning, I would offer this word jumble: PLEHSDEENUSCE.

Elected positions are paid and they are a great experience that allow you to work where you go to school (and live where you work). Good words from Dave Barry, 'Never be afraid to try something. Remember that a lone amateur built the ark and a team of professionals made the Titanic.'

If you're not running because you are scared, just remember a month later no one will remember. Living proof, is that I'm the only person who remembers my contributions. But the fact that I did something has made all the difference to me.

Ball Hockey is still thriving and if you haven't seen any of it yet, you're missing out. And the refs aren't too blind this year.

Vibe complained to me that they weren't mentioned in regards to volunteers and people who contribute to our campus. So thanks Taban, Mike, Mark, Vicky and all the deejays.

That's it for now.

Between Classes

anonymous by Nick Maandag

JOB FAIR TODAY !!!
UNIVERSITY
LECTURE FOR ART STUDENTS 2:00, Rm. 108
... WHICH WILL MAKE IT VERY HARD FOR YOU TO ACHIEVE YOUR POETIC ASPIRATIONS. I'M HERE TODAY TO GIVE YOU SOME PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR YOUR ABYSMAL FUTURES
FOR INSTANCE, DON'T RESORT TO NEWSPAPERS FOR BED SHEETS. USE YOUR CREATIVITY! VISIT YOUR LOCAL DUMP AND COMPRESS A WARM NEW COMFORTER OUT OF VARIOUS MATERIALS.
... NOW AS YOU KNOW, BEING ART STUDENTS IN THE 21st CENTURY, YOUR FUTURE DOESN'T LOOK ALL THAT BRIGHT
UM, YES, I HAVE A QUESTION. IS IT TRUE THAT CAT FOOD IS A GOOD SOURCE OF INEXPENSIVE PROTEIN ?
IN OUR MODERN WORLD, CORPORATIONS ARE SEIZING GROWING AMOUNTS OF POWER. THE RESULT IS THAT OUR SOCIETY IS CONCERNED MORE AND MORE WITH COMMERCE AND LESS WITH ART...
YES. BUT DOG FOOD IS MUCH BETTER! ALSO, ALOT OF PEOPLE TEND TO LEAVE PEANUTS FOR SQUIRRELS IN THEIR BACKYARDS. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF THESE OPPORTUNITIES...

FEATURES

New York City

Saturday, February 2, 2002:

I step from the New York subway at Fulton Street to line up to see Ground Zero with my dad. Street vendors line Fulton. They sell pre-framed photos – the World Trade Center towers standing tall and intact in black and white, John Lennon's Imagine mosaic in Central Park – Ground Zero toques and postcards of Osama Bin Laden in red gun sights.

We walk the cobblestone street past the fish restaurants to the pier. It is a clear, sunny day. We've come to New York, our first father-son trip. The last time dad was here it was 1964, when he drove his '62 Plymouth alone from Toronto to see the New York World's Fair.

The last time I was here was 1991. I drove my '84 Toyota hatchback from Pennsylvania to NYC with my girlfriend. We passed the towers, saw the statue, turned and drove two hours back so that we wouldn't have to park.

Dad and I join the line on the wooden pier. We wait for free tickets to the World Trade Center walkway. Next to us moors The Peking, a large black sailing ship with its own ticket line for tours. I turn to the green Atlantic and catch the smell of the pier, of fish and seawater.

At the fish restaurant nearby, someone has written on its erasable sign, "We will rebuild," over its specials – fish and chips, salmon, crab.

Women behind us chat.

"I wish I'd brought my other camera, to get panoramic views."

"I should probably get my mother something. I didn't get her anything for Christmas. She's still my mother. I think I'll get her a Ground Zero T-shirt. They're so cute."

"It's amazing," says the first, "how fast they print those things out."

Ground Zero remains a TV image for dad and I. It feels strange standing blocks from the site, feeling it but not having seen it. Above the nearest skyscraper wisps of cloud travel a blue sky.

"The last time I was here," says dad, "the towers had not yet been built."

"Yeah. You know, the name Ground Zero stays from usage, eh dad? I've heard journalists say they had no choice but to adopt the term, though it is technically incorrect."

"Move it along, move it along," says a woman in the distance behind us.

We make it to the little booth.

"How many?" says the ticket woman.

"Two," says dad.

"You're at three-thirty," says the woman.

Our yellow tickets say February 2nd, admit one, non-transferable, not for sale and please do not arrive more than fifteen minutes prior.

We have four hours before we view.

Dad and I walk down an eerily silent Wall Street. Blue wooden police barriers cordon the street. Police block the street at the Stock Exchange.

"Where is the protest?" I ask a cop.

"At 115th, uptown," he says.

"You're here just in case they come here?"

"Just in case," he says.

This weekend the World Economic Forum takes place. The NYPD seem omnipresent, walking with bundles of plastic handcuffs at their waists. Those I speak with are friendly.

Dad and I agree they make us feel safe. Later on our trip, we see the United Nations building cordoned off by police vehicles, including a police tank. The UN remains open to visitors.

I walk with dad to Broadway and stop outside the U.S. Postal Building. Outside, we take each other's picture with the large bronze bull, dad with its front, me with its rear.

Throughout our New York walks, dad and I spot large vinyl banners for Citibank. One on Broadway reads, "Human decency is up a point and kindness is making a rally."

An ad on a phone booth tells us, "Even heroes need to talk."

At three-thirty dad and I funnel into the World Trade Center walkway. We wait halfway up the wooden platform for the group ahead of us to finish. I snap a picture of old tombstones in the churchyard next to us. A cop motions our group to the viewing platform.

I see Ground Zero and I see a construction site. Pneumatic drills rattle. I see sky. Looking at a small picture of the towers on posted nearby, I try to imagine them as they stood, more than double the height of the buildings around.

People snap pictures and people cry. The southernmost building to the site stands draped in a huge black cloth. Platform workers move us on. I leave dwelling on the sheer size of the black shroud and the American flag that adorns its top floors.

Dad says he feels an emotional twinge. "It must be quite something quite deep," he says, "for those who had seen the towers."

Away from the Ground Zero crowds, Broadway grows quiet. The streets darken. At 160 Broadway, dad and I stop at a McDonald's with a piano in its upper floor window. We step inside, look up. Cops at a table glance at us and turn back to each other to finish their stories. On Broadway I ask dad to wait as I take a picture. I frame the baby grand through the glass with its mic on its boom arm.

I stop with dad at a street vendor's table. "We got all da blink-blink, right here," says the man. I look at a one-dollar package of stickers. They show the twin towers. On the back I read black lettering, *Made in Taiwan.*

A cop talks to the vendor, tells him he has no license and has to pack up. I pick through things on the table – gloves and photos and a CD of the Ground Zero story ("It has everything," a vendor told me earlier, "The whole story. Eighty-six minutes long. Ten bucks.")

The cop leaves. I hold up a black Ground Zero toque and four fingers.

"No, it's five," he says. "Okay, four. Whatever, I guess. Damn."

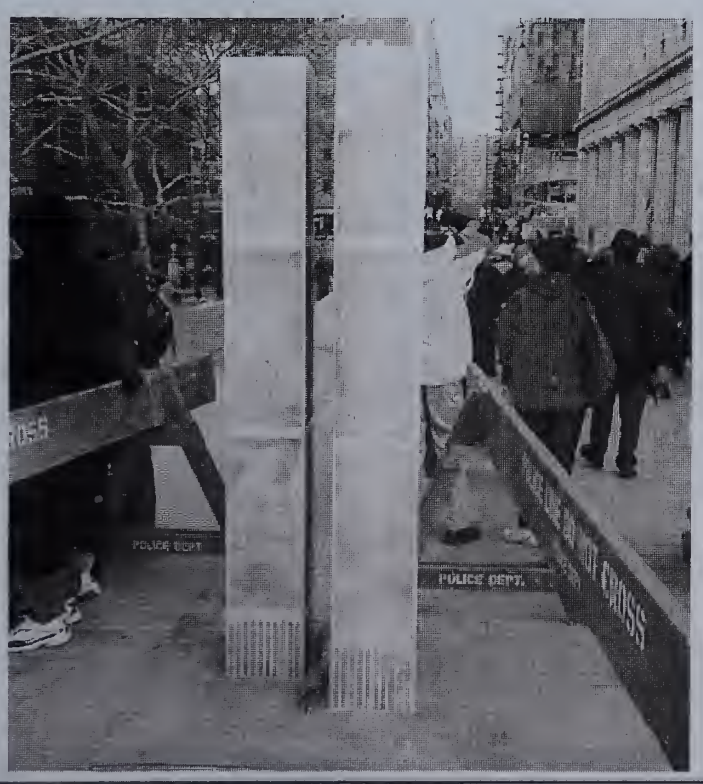
We walk to the Fulton Street subway. An ad in the subway shows a boy draped in an American flag. The copy reads, "The future depends on the economy of America."

A man stands in a passage of the New York subway. "Burn in hell," he says. "Burn in hell," he says in a tone I dare to call upbeat, almost reassuring. "Burn in hell."

Dad turns to me. "Are you sure you don't want to go back and talk Theology with him?"

We laugh as we follow the signs to the uptown trains.

Story and photos by John Currie



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Pre-Recruitment Seminar for 3rd year Accounting Students: Wed., March 6, 1:00-3:00.
Sign up for these and other Career Centre events at www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers
Summer Jobs: We have lots of postings! View them in the Career Centre or online.
Career Centre Now Hiring: Student Career Assistants for 2002-2003. Details at Career Centre!
Resume Critiques: Tuesday, March 5, 12:00-3:00 (first-come, first-served sign-up)
www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers Career Centre @ UTM

Afghanistan - what do we know about it ?

While we recover from the tragedy of September 11, 2001 here in the Western World, people suffer atrocities in Afghanistan. An aid worker recounts his experiences in the war and drought stricken country.

BY MONICA VERMA

The Taliban may have left Afghanistan, but the problems Afghan citizens face are far from over.

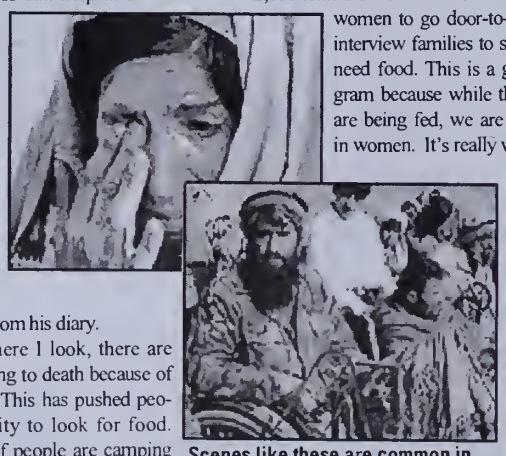
The United Nations reports that 7.5 million Afghans are at risk of dying in a country where they have endured three years of drought, two decades of civil war, and now aerial bombardment. The worst drought in 30 years has drastically reduced cereal production and devastated livestock This has resulted in many people starving to death.

An estimated one million Afghans have left the barren countryside for the cities and for camps where they are dependent on international food relief. Winter is fast approaching and food supplies within the country are woefully insufficient.

On virtually every measure of well-being, Afghanistan is at or near the bottom. Afghanistan has the lowest calorie per person intake in the world. More than 70,000 Afghans, most of them children, have been killed or maimed by mines in the past decade. Approximately one in four Afghan children die of preventable causes before the age of five, and about half of all Afghan children suffer from malnutrition. Approximately two million Afghan children are refugees or internally displaced. Many have no access to education or basic healthcare.

In western Afghanistan, Guelph resident Philip Maher is working with the Christian humanitarian agency World Vision to distribute 50-kilogram bags of wheat to residents. Julie Plunkett, a Residence Don, invited him to talk at UTM Wednesday evening along with the Community Awareness Club as a supplement to last weekend's 30-hour famine.

Plunkett said, "It's beneficial to show students a positive note. We need to stress how goodness can help in disaster. As well, this talk will help to clear up myths. It's good for peace of mind to see what is really going on."



Scenes like these are common in Afghanistan today.

Maher read a moving excerpt from his diary.

"Everywhere I look, there are people starving to death because of the drought. This has pushed people to the city to look for food. Thousands of people are camping in the middle of the desert in summer and the winters are a mud hole. The environment is very brown. The only commodity they have in abundance is time," he read.

"Today, we were looking into tent distributions. The (much-awaited) rain came, but took away 10 percent of the homes. Good things come at a price. The innocent children are barefoot and shivering, sucking life out of each day. Today, I held the hands of children between my fleecy mitts, attempting to thaw their hands. I can feel their little hands in my hands. I'm warming their hands while they warm my heart. It makes it worthwhile."

Maher has been involved with aid work in various countries, but this time his attentions were focused on Herat. In Herat, a western Afghan city a few hours from the Iranian border, "there is a poverty that exists at all times" as a result of years of war, strife and political turmoil.

According to Maher, "There are about 300,000 people. The goal is to distribute 2,800 tonnes of food. We hired about 250 women to go door-to-door and interview families to see if they need food. This is a great program because while the people are being fed, we are investing in women. It's really wonderful because I feel as if we've empowered them. It's a small thing for us but a huge thing for them. This is something they have not been allowed to do since the Taliban took power."

So far, about 80 percent of homes have qualified for aid. Those who qualified received coupons for 50-kilogram bags of wheat. The food is being distributed from the Herat football stadium – a site that was once used by the Taliban for executions. The food is provided by the World Food Program.

"As the Afghans walked out of the stadium, they would intuitively hang onto the wheat bag. The wheat is their life. None of the food goes to waste," said Maher, who then showed a picture of a man picking up wheat that had leaked from a bag.

Maher's agency also began distributing tents, floor sheeting and blankets to help people through the winter. These supplies will help about 11,000 people.

"As a result of the cold, people are perishing," Maher said. "There's no doubt about that."

Providing help is not easy. Roads to needy families are some of the most harsh on the globe. Staff often take up to 2.5 or more hours to travel from World Vision's base in Qala-I-now to the field survey area just 30 kilometres away. In some cases, staff must walk for two hours to register each villages.

According to Maher, today "people still feel there is a glimmer of hope at the end of the tunnel. People are saying that things are a lot better than they were two months ago. Things are a lot more alive and people are much happier."

He described a scene he witnessed where a group of high school girls, covered from head to toe, giggled over teen magazines and movie posters sold at a store just down the street from their school.

"They're high school girls being high school girls. It's very heart-warming," said Maher.

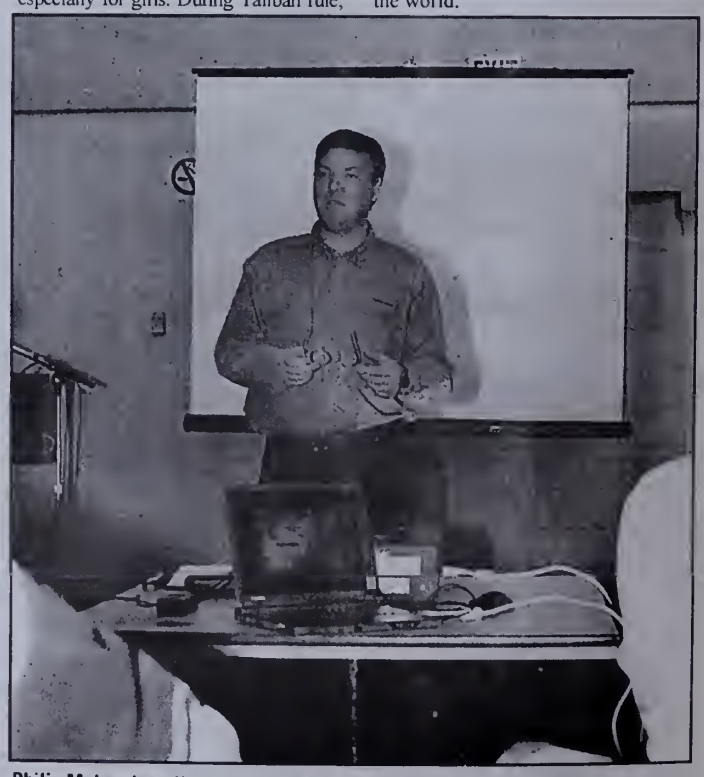
"Next we need to focus on rebuilding the school system and school structure, especially for girls. During Taliban rule, the boys could not study anything secular, such as math, science and English. They could only study the Koran. Girls were not permitted to study at all. However, secret schools were organized, since people knew that education was important and because they didn't like the Taliban."

In most institutions in Afghanistan, girls sit on floors in freezing temperatures, shivering while hunkered down on cobblestones wearing gloves and hats trying to concentrate on their teacher's lessons. Doors are covered in blankets in a feeble attempt to keep winter wind from blowing through entrances. Some schools use dirty white walls for blackboards while others use rocks for chairs.

When asked what his most memorable moment was, Maher answered, "After the genocide in Rwanda, 1.2 million people crossed from Rwanda into Zaire. There were 100 people dying per week and that was just in one camp. We were feeding 250,000 people per day. There was not enough food, medicine and tents. We were constantly wrapping dead bodies in burlap. I would go to sleep smelling dead bodies. All of us went through post-traumatic stress."

Plunkett said, "It was wonderful to hear from someone who has actually been in Afghanistan since September 11. I also appreciated his comments on the strength of the human spirit and the fact that he illustrated that everyone can make a difference.

"It was difficult to see some of the pictures, but it was wonderful for students to truly see and hear about what is happening in Afghanistan without media bias. I think the message from this presentation is that the human spirit has amazing strength and that people who dare to dream can change the world."



Philip Maher describes his experiences in Afghanistan as an aid worker. *photo/Melissa Verge*

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Gorillaz fail to animate fans

CONCERT REVIEW

BY JOHN MCGLASHAN

When I first heard about the *Gorillaz* tour, I wondered how successful it would really be. Would be people really spend money to go and watch a performance by an animated band? The idea of watching a band that didn't exist, except on paper as cartoons, seemed like too bizarre a concept for people to actually accept and pay $35 to see. And after the concert at the Docks, I know for sure that it was.

The *Gorillaz* are a concept band – literally the first virtual, animated, hip-hop group. *Gorillaz* is made up of 2-D (voiced by Blur front man Damon Albarn), a purple haired zombie-like front man; Murdoch, the supposed satanic figure complete with an upside down Crucifix on the lead guitar; Noodles, a pubescent Japanese girl their fansite says was found in a crate by a dock; and the drummer/rapper extraordinaire, Russel, whose "spirited" lyrics were found on the bands first big hit "Clint Eastwood." It's a mix of Cibo Mato, Blur, Dan the Automator's DJ styling, and a fusion of hip hop/ambient that comes across surprisingly well. The music is innovative and well animated – as any of their videos will show.

When *Gorillaz* played the Docks last Saturday the venue was set up so that there was a giant screen on the main stage. The bottom half (roughly seven feet in height) was a white translucent screen where the band's shadow could be seen. We never saw the actual band, so we had to trust that they had actually brought the band and didn't paid people to pose while they played a "live" soundtrack. They projected the band on the top half of the screen. *Gorillaz* videos' might be quite good – I know because they're available on the releases of the Japanese G-sides EP, the American G-sides EP and the limited release of the "Tomorrow comes today" single – but great animation and shadow puppets do not a great concert make.

The band started out with their "M1A1" single, which actually got the crowd going. Up until that point, the crowd stood around for an hour and a half listening to the Docks' collection of mixed CDs, buying their $40 shirts and $15 crests. The band followed that song up with "Rock the House," "Punk," and "Dracula." The crowd was kind of starting to warm to the music, but that didn't last. The band played almost all their songs with no interruption, except for the odd two-minute cartoon featuring "the band" being projected onto the main screen 'stage.' One audience member summed it up perfectly,

continued on page 12

A view of the *Gorillaz* as shadow puppets. Cartoon *Gorillaz* were also present.

ALBUM PICK OF THE WEEK

Gorillaz
Gorillaz
(EMI)

Who knew four creepy-cute cartoons could make it big on the British charts and go on to conquer North America?

2-D, Russel, Murdoc and Noodle may be at the mercy of their illustrator, Jamie Hewlett, when it comes to their public persona, but the musicians of **Gorillaz** have created a unique sound that stands on its own. Their self-titled album has been described as "today's electronica," "gangster rap," and "Britpop," but I would go with innovative, celebratory, drug music – in a good way. There are so many funky noises that comprise each of the 15 songs and they all come together to make pleasing music that's fun to listen to, even if you're not into drugs. We've all heard "Clint Eastwood" and let's face the truth: it's a damn good tune that makes you smile and want to hear more. "Man Research" is another favorite of mine, mainly due to the cute baby "la, la, la's" sung in real-life by Damon Albarn from Blur.

In addition to the groovy songs attributed to the semi-scary punk cartoons, this is an enhanced CD, which means you can watch an animated scenario on your PC. It gives privileged access to your very own key for use at www.gorillaz.com, and access to Murdoc's Winnebago – yet another mystery surrounding the **Gorillaz**.

-Jill Kitchener

Beaux' Stratagem shows tricks aren't just for kids

THEATRE REVIEW

BY ANDREA CIVICHINO

I guess gun control laws were lax in 1707, the year when George Farquhar wrote *The Beaux' Stratagem*, performed here by Theatre Erindale.

Love and marriage was just as complicated in the 18th century as it is today in the 21st, according to George Farquhar's brilliant play, *The Beaux' Stratagem*. Performed by third- and fourth-year drama students and directed by Mimi Mekler, the play is all about strategizing. By the end, the play will have you asking yourself, "Just how far would I go for wealth and prestige?"

The play begins with the arrival of two gentlemen, Aimwell (Aaron Forward) and Archer (Daniel Benakoun). The gentlemen are eagerly welcomed by a ruthless, self-absorbed innkeeper named Bonniface (David Jutzi) and his daughter Cherry (Whitney Barris). Aimwell and his companion are presentable in their demeanour, however, they are impoverished, and both journey to Lichfield with high hopes of restoring their wealth, as Aimwell was denied the opportunity to benefit from his family's wealth and fortune. The motives and tricks of these two gentlemen are unknown to Bonniface and his daughter, who welcome the men into their inn because of their lavish dress and exquisite manner. Both gentlemen develop something that they call 'the good plan,' where Aimwell assumes his brother's identity and Archer plays the role of his servant. With their scheme put into practise, the gentlemen hope to improve their chances of marrying a wealthy woman to obtain her dowry. But only the audience knows the real story.

Two different portrayals of love and marriage are presented in this play. We see the developmental stages of love when Aimwell sets his eyes upon the beautiful and innocent Dorinda, played by Kharin Theiss. Contrasting to this theory of love at first sight (or more appropriately fortune-at-first-sight), there's the 14-year 'hate-hate' marriage of Squire Sullen (Brian Sison) and Mrs. Sullen (Inessa Frantowski). Squire chooses to indulge in ale and spirits instead of lavishing his wife with the love and attention that she solely craves. Mrs. Sullen, in her decorative gowns and pancake-applied makeup, has no inclination to share in his rambunctious activities. She rambles on about the incompatibility she shares with her husband. Clearly, Squire Sullen only married his wife for her attractive dowry. But Mrs. Sullen has a few tricks of her own, which she shares with her sister-in-law Dorinda. In a state of hopelessness, she sets up a trap that will make the Squire jealous. Flirting with the French Count (Gabriel DiFabio) is for her husband's benefit, however, just as Aimwell begins to woo Dorinda, the aggressive Archer begins to make propositions to Mrs. Sullen.

Although this was my first encounter with this particular play, I was especially surprised by its emphasis on divorce. The notion of breaking a marital contract has only been associated with the modern day couple, so it's interesting to see how it was viewed during the year that the play was conceived in 1707. It's also interesting to not that many critics have acclaimed this brilliant play as a reflection of Faraquhar's own failed marriage.

The representation of the different classes: upper, lower, British and foreigners was well characterized – but many of the actors had difficulty maintaining their accents. This became more apparent as some of the actors fumbled with their lines, but this might have more to do with the length of the play – after three hours of acting, one cannot expect a seamless performance. Perhaps the elimination of a few scenes would of made the play a little more tolerable for both the actors and the audience because as the energy level of the actors declined, so did my interest. The costumes were beautifully used to represent the different class levels of the play, and the low-cut bodices for the women, and the rich looking cloaks for the men clearly defined their place on the social scale.

The Beaux' Stratagem plays at Theatre Erindale from March 5 to 9.

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Canstage's *Edible Woman* delivers a mouthful

THEATRE REVIEW

BY ANDREA CIVICHINO

Jillian Fargey plays Marian McAlpin in Canstage's *The Edible Woman*.

Every once in a while, you will encounter an actor with such stage presence that a theatre full of people will remain absolutely silent throughout the show. This rare phenomenon is now playing the lead role in *The Edible Woman* at CanStage's Bluma Appel theatre.

Jillian Fargey plays Marian McAlpin in this play by Dave Carley, based on Margaret Atwood's first published novel. Marian seems, at first, to be a typical young woman of the 1960s. She has a fairly mediocre job at a survey company, a fairly ordinary boyfriend named Peter, and a fairly wild roommate named Ainsley. However,. after she becomes engaged to Peter and meets an odd graduate student named Duncan, her sense of self and some of her habits begin to change. She's not sure what causes the changes and she becomes worried. Throughout the rest of the play, Marian tries to figure out what's going on and why.

Fargey plays this part with incredible presence and great comic timing, bringing the audience with her every step of her journey. It doesn't hurt that Fargey is surrounded by equally talented castmates. Tara Samuel grabs the audience with her enthusiasm as Marian's party-hearty roommate, Ainsley – making us root for her pregnancy plan, even if we don't totally agree with it. Todd Talbot is a perfect provider-type boyfriend in the role of Peter, allowing us to dislike him just enough to question the engagement. Darren Keay makes eccentricity quite lovable as Duncan, providing laughs for the audience with seemingly no effort. Alec McClure as slick-but-real Len, Michael Rubenfeld as Duncan's paternal, womb-obsessed roommate, and Lynne Cormack as both the pathetically giddy Lucy and the annoyingly straight-edged Landlady, round out the cast.

Timothy Bond seamlessly directs this set of accomplished actors – other than the blocking, which was amazingly fluid, there were no moments where Bond's direction stood too noticeably out from behind the actors' lines or the production's stage design.

Speaking of design, this show was marvelous in its simplicity. Chalotte Dean's 60s-style fly-in set pieces, minimal on-stage add-ons, and beautiful costumes are wonderfully era-appropriate. The lighting, designed by Adrian Muir, subtly directed focus and mood without drawing away at all from the action on stage. With such outstanding design, direction and acting, *The Edible Woman* is a tasty treat that no theatre fan should miss.

The Edible Woman plays at Bluma Appel theatre until March 16.

Toronto clubs get a UTM rating

CLUB REVIEWS

BY BRIAN "LONDON" ANDRADE

Since this is my first-ever club review column in The Medium, I'll express my tastes and what I think makes for a good club. My musical preference is house. Anything from deep and dark tribal, as played by Mark Oliver, to classic house. However, with an open mind, I can appreciate almost any musical style. I frequent clubs at a minimum once a week, and I prefer trying new locations.

Club hop #1: Full House Fridays at Casino Lounge

Cover: $10

Two floors, dress code. Upstairs is a variety of music with DJ Jimmy Jamm, while downstairs is a mix of smooth vocal house and tribal with DJ Dave White. I think the lighting guy plays a hip hop set, too. Clubs are so different circa 11p.m. I stayed downstairs most of the night because the music was so amazing. It's mostly vocal house for the warm-up session, followed by a slightly harder track selection by Dave White. Upstairs is usually more busy than downstairs, so if you like dancing with space to move, downstairs is a definite.

Club hop #2: The Mint at Money

Cover: $10

Three floors, strict dress code. The main floor has Mark Oliver in a suspended DJ booth, which is cool to watch, especially when the guy needs someone to hand him a record. The two other floors play more generic house and hip hop. This was my first time at Money in a long time - for a long time, I vehemently opposed going to this place. There was a line-up to get in all night long, and surprisingly, the bouncers were polite and respectful to me. That was one of the things that has always turned me off about this place, because I heard horror stories about the bouncers but now, I realize they are just keeping out the riff-raffs. I spent most of my time in Mark Oliver's room. His set was similar to his Fluid Sunday style, with bangin' beats, and heavy on the accapella tracks. The room was pretty busy, but not as packed as downstairs which was a mess, to say the least. I hope that some of that crowd smartens up and goes upstairs where there's better music.

Club hop #3: "Clique" at Inside

Cover: $15.

Two floors, fashion/style code. The main room has Aubrey Richards playing his distinct style of dirty ass house, and upstairs, Ramy vs. David play current house hits with a splash of hip hop. The crowd here, in my view was a total blast from the past, because all the regulars who were usually busy to come out, came out. The crowd - which was a mixture of the wealthy, the fashion inclined, the industry people, and "shooters" (try-too-hards) – made for a better night because they really got into the music.

ALBUM PICK OF THE WEEK

The Chemical Brothers
Come With Us
(Virgin)

The Chemical Brothers return with *Come With Us* – a simpler album than previous releases. They aren't changing the shape of electronic music here, they're just making album you can dance to. And dancy it is. The standard big-break rocky sound is pushed aside for more four-fourish beats and happy, poppy, glistening sounds.

The album moves from from pure techno in the club smash "It Began in Afrika" through to slow breezy beats of "The State We're In" – featuring the vocals of the talented Beth Orton, ever-present **in The Chemical Brothers'** work. "The State We're In" is very similar to the track "Where do I begin" on the now classic album, *Dig Your Own Hole*. It starts slow and pretty and builds slowly in to uplifitng beats at the end.

The stand-out track on the album is easily "Star Guitar", an uplifting trancy-house track that builds and crescendos smoothly. Beth Orton's vocals mesh beautifully with trancy synths and a hard, yet subtle beat.

The Verve's Richard Ashcroft is present on "The Test" - and his vocals are beautiful. Sadly though, the track itself is useless, it sounds standard and boring.

The brilliant thing about this album is that it transcends dance music in that it rarely ever loops – every track is constantly changing, sometimes switching half-way through to a different rhythm – but it always works. Yet it falls short though in its lack of innovation – it seems more like filler from the ever-talented **Chemical Brothers.** I hope that more originality will be present from them in the future.

-Laurence Cymet

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Stars of *Men With Brooms* try to promote Canadian cinema

MOVIE FEATURE

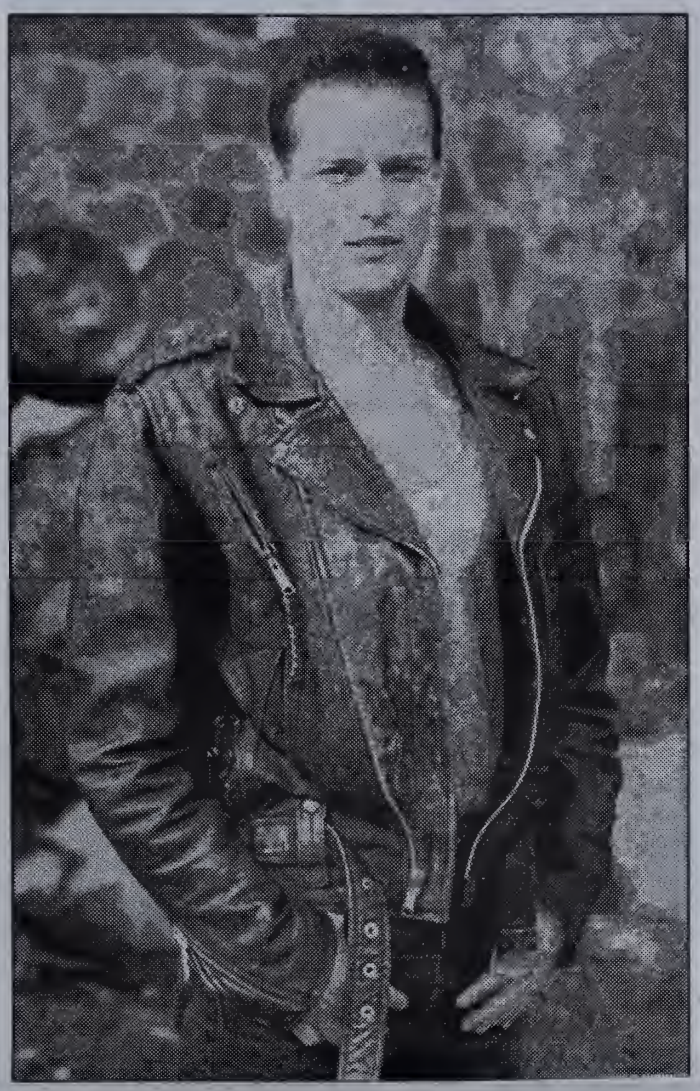
By Jennifer Matotek

It's not a good idea walk in an hour late for the premiere screening of your directorial debut. And it's never a good way to start off a press conference by dissing the person who's interviewing you. Maybe that sort of shlubbery is tolerated in the relationship between the media and Hollywood stars, but I don't think that should give Canadian stars any excuses. So when I mentioned to Paul Gross at a round table press conference that I was surprised that friends of mine actually knew about their Canadian-made film, I shouldn't have been surprised when Paul Gross dryly replied, "Yeah. It's amazing when there's a correlation between telling people that you have a movie, and then having them know about it." I should have walked out of the dry press conference right then, but Leslie Neilson's puppy-dog eyes begged me to stay.

In case you hadn't heard, Paul Gross and Leslie Neilson star in *Men With Brooms*, a Canadian feature-length, dramatic comedy with a $7.5 million budget. Produced by Robert Lantos – the man I will always fondly recall as the executive behind *Johnny Mnemonic* – *Men With Brooms* tells the story of a oil driller (played by Paul Gross) who comes back to his small fictional town of Long Bay after the death of his old curling coach. The coach decrees in his last will and testament that his remains be placed in a curling rock and used to reunite his old curling team so they can win a curling championship they lost twenty years ago, when Gross' character skipped town and jilted his fiancée. Gross, as writer, director, actor – oh, and he also wrote several songs for the film's soundtrack – would like to think that his film is getting a promotional push because the distributors "think it's wonderful," noting that most Canadian films only end up screening at film festivals. It's a system that Gross finds rather "exclusionary."

"Movies are a real collision of commerce and art and it's unsightly most of the time," commented Gross about the process of making the movie, which he originally thought should be about hockey. Before he started writing the film with his co-writers, he knew absolutely nothing about curling, until he went out and purchased the book "Curling for Dummies." Gross also wasn't clear about exactly how it came about that he would direct the film – he said that he and Lantos never had an exact discussion about it. But apparently, it was fairly easy for Gross to take on so many roles in the film because "not everything happened at once. The directing and acting did happen at once, but when I was in a scene with everyone else, I found that everyone else would direct me," referring to a story about a scene he had with Molly Parker where she recommended to Gross that he do another take.

"Ninety percent of directing is just time management," said Gross. "Very little of it, I think, requires great inspiration. I can't imagine what you would do with a budget of two hundred million dollars."



Hey, everyone! I'm Paul Gross. Look at my groin!

I got tired of asking Paul Gross so many questions, so I turned to the sweet, charming, and gentlemanly Leslie Neilson, who stars in the film as the father of Paul Gross' character. "Would you like a piece of muffin?" he asked, noticing my eyes staring hungrily at him. When I asked Neilson about his whoppee cushion habits, he happily reached into his jacket and broke out into a crescendo of hand farts, putting on a show complete with awkward pauses and appropriate facial expressions. Neilson insisted that he did not take the cushion on set because he did not want to take away from the art of the film (insert farting noise here).

When asked about how a comic role in the low-budget Canadian feature compared to working on a higher budget comic feature, Neilson busted the myth that there was a lot of room for ad-libbing during his work for the Zucker team of writers.

"With them, you were word perfect, you were following the dialogue – you didn't make a change, and you knew why a line was funny. But they had a lot of time, whereas with Paul we had to kind of move on."

Paul nods in agreement, using the euphemism of "shoving eighty pounds of crap into a five pound bag" to describe the difficulties in filming, saying that he had to cut about 40 extra minutes from the centre of the film. The conference concluded with Gross mentioning that many of the curling positions really hurt "the muscle that connects your penis to your body," while Neilson disagreed and said that he found the same positions "quite pleasant." It's a gap in opinion that says a lot about the dispositions of both Gross and Neilson, and a gap in opinion that will probably be present among film-goers when they walk out of *Men With Brooms*.

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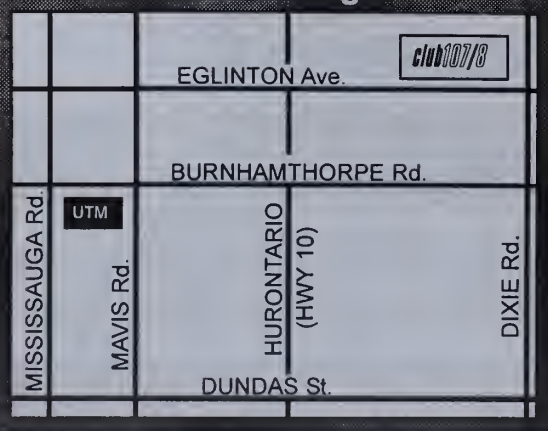

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ALBUM PICK OF THE WEEK

The Tea Party
The Interzone Mantras
(EMI)

I really enjoyed **The Tea Party**'s last album of new songs, the 1999 release *Triptych*. While it was significantly lighter than **The Tea Party**'s previous offering, *Transmission*, it still presented the typical fusion of Eastern sounds and cerebral lyrics that the band is known for. When I heard "Heaven Coming Down" being played on various adult contemporary stations, however, I had to shake my head. If you are a fan of **The Tea Party**, it probably occurred to you to that this probably wasn't the intended destination for their music, since **The Tea Party** seem to pride themselves on being smart credible, and original – qualities that seem irrelevant to a lot of adult contemporary stations.

Perhaps it is in reaction to the reception of *Triptych* that their most recent release, *The Interzone Mantras* was born. This disc returns to some of the heavy, fast, guitar and percussion driven sounds of **The Tea Party**'s earlier music. While *The Interzone Mantras* is much more akin to *Transmission*, it doesn't lose the vocal range and melody the band gained on *Triptych*. With *The Interzone Mantras* it seems that the band has achieved a perfect synthesis of all of their previous efforts. As I've come to expect from **The Tea Party**, I had to listen to the CD three times before I thought I'd grasped the entire sound. Their use of saxophones, trombones, trumpets, violins and a ton of other instruments and sounds, makes their songs hard to take in – but that's part of the attraction of their music.

The first two songs on the disc are illustrative of their range. "Interzone" is quick, loud and thick with guitar, strong percussion, sax and eastern sounds. "Angels" is slower and more melodic. The softer "Soulbreaking" is followed by the much harder "Lullaby" so throughout *The Interzone Mantras* the listener gets hit with **The Tea Party**'s broad range. On songs like "Apathy," lead singer Jeff Martin's vocal range takes centre stage. From singing softly to outright belting and from loud drums to understated violins *The Interzone Mantras* has something for everyone.

-Melissa Verge

Survivor watch: Holy man gets the boot

TV REVIEW

BY ROBERT CHAN

Last week was the inaugural beginning of no-rations *Survivor*. As much as I like the no rations policy, that still doesn't rule out food from the reward challenges. Of course if that doesn't do it, the planted chickens and boars on the island are more than enough to feed the chiseled man-nurse, John, and his friends.

I know I've said this a million times, but why can't any of these people make fire without the aid of a magnifying glass? Even with the magnifying glass, the morons couldn't figure out how to light tinder.

For some reason, the survivors thought it took eight people to make a fire. What they didn't realize was that it took one person to make the fire and seven to block out the sun and blow carbon monoxide onto the smoke. A six-year-old could've made fire faster than that, and have an entire burnt ant colony to boot.

After the overly exciting, seen it for a millionth time, immunity challenge, Peter, from who cares where, suggested that they all vote for the weakest link. That didn't go over too well with his tribe mates, but that's not the reason he got booted. At tribal council, the producers knew they couldn't let the T & A of the show, Sarah, the Account Manager from California, go so easily, so they rigged the vote and said goodbye to Peter, the Holy man that couldn't stop talking about his holes.

My prophetic prediction for this week is that the survivors complain about the constant rain that keeps washing away their fire.

It came as a surprise to many people when Peter Harkey, the bowling alley owner, was voted off the first episode of Survivor 4: Marquesas.

Gorillaz stop in Canada

continued from page 7

saying, "I came to see a band and wound up seeing an <expletive> cartoon festival?"

By the general reaction of the crowd, you could see that this idea of bringing cartoons on a concert tour still needed some work. When *Gorillaz* came on around 9:45 p.m., played almost an hour, and then disappeared, people were either confused or pissed. When the lights went on, I thought that this was just a part of the performance and that they would come back in fifteen minutes with an encore. (I read they pulled the same thing in Paris last year.) Then the stage crew came out and started rolling up the screen and dismantling the cameras – the concert was projected to theaters across Canada and was their only stop in the country – so there was no room for encores, leaving the crowd pissed and looking for the nearest exit.

No new songs were introduced at the show and if you had the band's singles, their LP, and a computer at home, you've probably already seen and heard a good half of what was shown at the Docks. When projected on a giant screen, the animation is great and their music rocks – but $35 bucks to see cartoons set to music is a bit excessive.

Gorillaz played at The Docks on Saturday February 23.

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SPORTS

The Commish's Ball Hockey Playoff Report: Week Seven

BALL HOCKEY BETTING LINE

BY "THE COMMISH" JON LEE

The end is near. Two teams in Division I, the defending champs Fury and the veteran Dragons, face off in a best of three finals for Men's Ball Hockey supremacy of the top division. Meanwhile, there are four teams in the semifinals, Rookies, Agents, Rage and Milkmen, who will play two game aggregates (two games are played in one week, most goals combined in two games wins). The spreads for these will be the overall result after two games. The all-star games are coming up after playoffs so keep an eye out for the Division II All-Star ballot to choose who goes to the game.

Division I

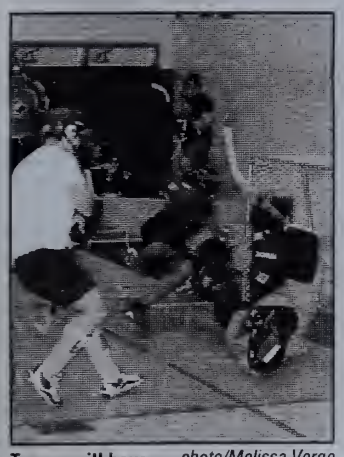
All-Star Dealy

Before I go to picks, I'll discuss how the Division I All-Star game will work. There will be two teams: One made up of players from Fury, Titans and Young Bloods (called Team FYT for now) and the other made up of players from the Waterboyz and Dragons (Team DW for now). Each team gets a number of picks according to how they ranked in regular season scorers. First-place Fury gets four, the second-place Waterboyz get four, the third-place Dragons get three, the fourth-place Titans get two, the fifth-place Young Bloods get one. Each team will then submit a Captain's player pick, and to round up teams there will be one Commissioner's pick for Team DW. The top two goalies are already chosen based on top goalie stats. Here are the all stars so far chosen:

Team FYT – Mike Acedo (Fury), Mike Sudeyko (Fury), Bruce Worthington (Fury), Adam Daly (Fury). Paolo Caramanico (Titans), Mike Porto (Titans), Matthew Spagnolo (Young Bloods), Neil Meneses (Fury goalie), Craig Dixon (Titans goalie).

Team DW – Javis Gillingham (Waterboyz), Ray Mukaddam (Waterboyz), Eddy Jurinic (Waterboyz), Massimo Giannobile (Waterboyz), Adam Giles (Dragons), Jan Maw (Dragons), Yasin Ozturk (Dragons), Clay Kelly (Waterboyz goalie), Kevin Spence (Dragons goalie).

Congratulations to those who have made it to the All-Star game for Division I. So circle Thursday, March 21 to catch the All-Star festivities from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. There will be a skills competition after the games at 5:00 p.m.



Teams will have to crash the nets to score *photo/Melissa Verge*

Division I –Finals–

Fury vs. Dragons: The Dragons proved the Commish wrong. They survived a best of three to take on rival Fury. This is a matchup of last year's semi finals classic where it came down to a shootout (as the Commish predicted last year) that Fury won 1-0 on a goal by Bruce Worthington. Can the Dragons get their revenge? By this year's showing in the regular season, it seems likely. "Mr. Hockey" Steve Murphy must be watched, as he tears up the playoff scene with 8 goals and 4 assists in the series with the Waterboyz. On the Fury side, they'll counter with All-Star and last year's MVP Mike "The Ace" Acedo, who helped lead Fury to a sweep against the Young Bloods. The supporting casts are also quite even, with Fury sending in Worthington, Mike Sudeyko, Adam Daly and Jay Abbott, while the Dragons will counter with Jan "The Man" Maw, Adam Giles, John Minichillo, Yasin "The Oz" Ozturk, Eric Sugar and Darryl Sequeira. So how to decide this year's series? It comes down to goaltending, where the Dragons this year have the edge. "Stone Cold" Kevin Spence is hot right now and has shocked the fans with his great glove saves. Neil Meneses has been stellar in net all year, but he hasn't shown yet that he can steal a game like his predecessor, John Carrabs. But again, prove me wrong and we'll have another shootout final. I see Fury coming out with the rest in Game One, but Dragons have this series once everyone gets back in the groove and they establish their game with Fury as they did with the Waterboyz. **Point Spread in Game One: Fury by 2. Game Two: Dragons by 3. Game Three: Dragons in overtime.**

Division II –Playoffs–

Series 1 – Milkmen vs. Rage: Is this Canada vs. Belarus? Chants of Belarus from the crowd came after Rage's 7-4 upset win over the Raiders, while Milkmen got into a bit of a scuffle, but won handily over the Jets 9-1. The regular season meeting between these two resulted in a win for the Milkmen. This isn't Canada vs. Belarus for a few reasons. The main one is that Rage is an offensive juggernaut that will thrive at the two games total goals situation. Top scorer Greg Clarence went wild on the Raiders, and his mates Joe "Styles" Cosentino and Gregg Cullen picked up their games to playoff level as they did last year as Agents. Meanwhile, the Milkmen play more of a trap style game with so many huge bodies to use – that can also score on giveaways – such as Mark Sobeszewski, Lou Bruno and Andres "Big Money" Montiel. Again this will come down to goaltending, (Dave Free of the Rage versus Nathan Prince) and possibly endurance that the Milkmen dominate in with four big lines. But if the Rage keep up the Cinderella Story II enthusiasm, look for Rage to rage into the Finals. **Point Spread in 2 games: Rage by 3.**

It's going to be a rough series between Fury and the Dragons. *photo/Melissa Verge*

Series 2 – Rookies vs. Agents: Seems like a lot of fans are interested in seeing this heavyweight battle. The Agents are an army of four lines, right now led by the Crispy line of Crispin Martin, Dan Fietje and Robert Dean, while the Renegades lines (Danylo Pelech, Jon Slota, "The Fonz" Afonso Tavares) is the crashing offensive line. Andrew Rabba supplies solid goaltending, where he was stellar in the quarterfinals win against the tough Red Wings. This will be tougher as the Rookies will be led by "The Whole Damn Defence" of Pardeep Nagra. The Rookies have some veteran talent – stress "veteran" – that help out Nagra such as Kevin "Big Shot" Lee, "Black" Jack Krist, and Steve Ghose. Good feeds from Nagra will be the key for the Rookies win. The key to the Agents to succeed will be to contain the speedy Nagra, while putting plenty of shots on the new Rookies goalie, Mitch Dimitri. The other factor for both teams will be endurance, and this advantage goes to the Agents – unless there really is an air tank in the Rookies bench. The Commish picks the Agents to get to the final mission: the Division II finals. **Point Spread: Agents by 2.**

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The Medium picks are in, Dragons will win

Ball Hockey Opinion

By Astrid "The Ed" Poei

It seems as though history has a way of repeating itself – well, in some cases.

Before the start of the ball hockey league, I predicted that there would be a showdown between the defending champs, Fury, and last year's silver medallists, the Dragons. As the playoff results prove, I'm right.

The Fury easily disposed of the Young Bloods two weeks ago and the Dragons did the same with the Waterboyz last week.

However, I predicted that Fury would win the Division One championship, but I don't think so anymore.

The Dragons will dethrone Fury in three games. If the Dragons can get their squad together for game one, I see the Dragons taking it by two goals. But, if they pull a repeat of last week's playoff game one and only four players show up, I see a Fury slaughter by three goals. Provided that the Dragons win in game one, I see Fury winning game two in a squeaker to stay alive – a one-goal win. In game three, I see them losing steam and the Dragons taking the championship by four goals.

Fury led Division One in goals scored because they, very unsportsmanlikely, hack away at weakling teams like the Young Bloods. Unfortunately, goals don't really win you games – goaltending wins you games. Fury lacks the goaltending that they had hoped for in youngster Neil Meneses. Meneses finished third on the regular season GAA list behind Dragons superstar netminder Kevin Spence. Even pitted against the best goalie in the league, the Waterboyz's Clay Kelly, Spence courageously led the Dragons to wins in playoff games two and three. Spence also helped hand Fury their first loss in two years during the Dragons' 4-3 regular season win.

Supporting Spence is defenceman Yasin Ozturk and two-way player Steve Murphy. Murphy and Ozturk alone are the Dragons' penalty killing team and have proven to be effective, as the Waterboyz were unable to score in penalty-ridden playoff game two.

The Dragons will look to Murphy and Ozturk, as I see tempers flaring in this championship series. The Dragons will also see results from captain Jan Maw and veteran Adam Giles. Giles potted big goals for the Dragons during the playoffs and Maw provides leadership to mesh this well-rounded team together. Oh, and don't forget, Dragon Darryl Sequiera. If Sequiera scores, you know that the Dragons have a huge lead.

Sorry Fury. I thought you guys would win it, but as the regular season and the playoffs have proven, it's going to be the Dragons by far.

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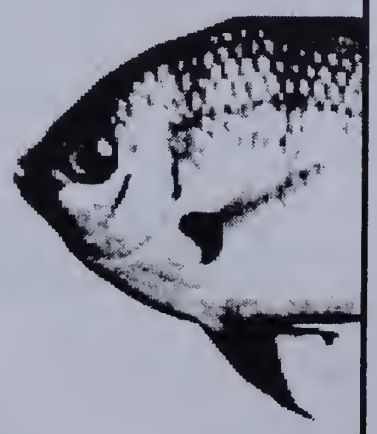

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Lacrosse Report

By Chandra Gilbert

After the slow start to the season, the women's lacrosse team picked up its level of play and ended the season in first place. They enter the playoffs facing Trinity/Innis, the team that tied at the beginning of the season.

The fourth game of the season marked the turning point of the scoring drought. UTM faced Medicine with no subs on the bench. This allowed for plenty of practice for those on the court to pass and shoot. UTM started well as scoring sensation Erin Laporte caught fire and fired the ball into the net for four goals in this game. Gina Rajack scored her first two of the season in this game, ending her troubles hitting the net. Great goaltending by Debbie Medeiros capped the scoring to a minimum as UTM won this game by a score of 8-2.

The final game of the season pitted the top team in the league against UTM. With one sub on the bench due to conflicting volleyball games, UTM looked strong against the highly touted Victoria team. Early scoring by Erin Laporte and Carrie Rai kept UTM in this game as they traded goals in the first half. UTM pulled away in the second with goals by Laporte, Rai and Chandra Gilbert. Medeiros played well as experienced Varsity players tried to find an opening. This one ended in a 7-3 final.

The Lady Eagles hope to exceed last year's playoff run with a win in the finals to take the first championship for UTM.

Race for indoor soccer playoff spots tightens as refs stir up trouble

By Rafal Piotrowski

With the season well under way, the race for playoff spots heats up. In the first game of the third round, we saw the leader Hell Fish take on a close third Championski. The game did not start without controversy, as the referee was seen the night before having dinner with Hell Fish players. With their army of substitutes, Hell Fish were awarded four penalty shots early in the game. Using his voodoo tactics, however, Championski goalie Les Cwik managed to deflect three of the four shots wide. In the end, Hell Fish earned a well-fought 9-5 victory assuring themselves a spot in the playoffs. In the other two games, Refugees barely squeezed out the two points against Darryl's All-Stars and Asian United beat up on the Psychocrickets.

It seems that Darryl's All-Stars will hit the greens around playoff time, as Asian United made a big stride towards grabbing the last playoff spot with their lopsided victory. In the standings, Hell Fish and Refugees share the first place spot, Asian United are third, and Championski comfortably awaits the playoffs in the fourth.

UTM men finish on a roll

By Kory Jazbec

The defending interfaculty indoor soccer champions march into this year's playoffs riding a five game winning streak. The latest victim to fall to UTM was Innis College by a 6-3 margin. After squandering a goal early in the game, UTM answered back with five straight. Nick "Albanian Animal" Emini led the charge with fivegoals in the game, while Mazen "Maximus" Zaki had the other tally. Innis put two more goals past Ben "Best Sixth Year Player" Dobrowolski, but UTM ended any thoughts of a comeback by scoring the insurance sixth goal. UTM played around with Innis in the later stages of the game with players looking for the perfect 'whoa.' UTM finishes second in the division and will most likely play Engineering in the semis. They're on course to have yet another rematch with Scarborough 'A' Scrubs in the final.

Dragons beat H2OBoyz to advance to finals against Fury

When the Brown Guy scores, you know the Dragons are winning

BY ASTRID POEI

Fire is stronger than water and the Dragons proved just that. The Dragons breathed fire in the playoffs last week, as they swept the washed up Waterboyz, two games to one. The Dragons managed to take game two 7-2 and game three 9-4, after the Waterboyz had the Dragons on the ropes with a 5-4 win in game one. With this series win, the Dragons advance to the finals against the defending champions, Fury.

In game one, the Waterboyz's Eddy Jurinic had a hat trick, while teammate Aman Mundi had two helpers. Much of the Dragons' squad was absent for this matchup and they did not benefit from defender Yasin Ozturk's penalty for body contact. Waterboyz J.P. Paluzzi (high sticking) and Ray Mukaddam (sliding) served time as well. However, Ozturk did contribute offensively, as he and Steve Murphy each had a pair apiece in a 5-4 losing cause.

In game two, the Dragons proved how bad they wanted the win, as they crushed the Waterboyz 7-2. Early in game, Dragon Adam Giles served a penalty for roughing. The Waterboyz scored on the powerplay, on a strong goal by Massimo Giannobile off a feed by Mundi, to open a 1-0 lead. However, Waterboyz goalie Clay Kelly could not stop the scoring tandem of the Dragons. Dragons' John Minichillo scored half way through first period to tie the game. Murphy assisted Minichillo. Minichillo served a penalty for his extra-curricular activities in front of the net. Minichillo had numerous scoring chances throughout this game, including a chance in front of the Waterboyz net, when Murphy centred the ball to him and he missed the net by a few inches. Murphy, on the other hand, would not miss, as he went up high on Kelly, on a nice pass by Eric Sugar. Eventually, Waterboy Mundi tied the game up, assisted by Jurinic. However, the Dragons prevailed when Sugar won an offensive zone faceoff cleanly and Giles walked in and scored. The Dragons led 3-2 at the half. The Dragons began the second half on the penalty-kill, as a Minichillo got a penalty at the end of the first half. The Waterboyz were unable to capitalize on strict defence by Ozturk and Murphy. Murphy began the Dragons scoring onslaught when Giannobile coughed up the ball and Murphy backhanded it past a sprawling Kelly. Spence saw little action between the pipes in this half, but he got a reaction from the crowd when he robbed Waterboy Harpal Panglia on a breakaway. Dragon Darryl Sequiera also had a big game. Murphy danced circles around the ailing Waterboyz defence with the ball and then he passed it to an eager Sequiera waiting in the slot. Sequiera jetted the ball past Kelly to give the Dragons the 5-2 lead. Late in the half, Sugar and Paluzzi served coincidental penalties after getting into a tizzy after the whistle was blown. Giannobile also served a penalty for roughing minutes later. Ozturk and Murphy scored again to seal the Dragons' victory.

Good ol' Gutsy Giles. The Dragons defeated the Waterboyz. A good time was had by all. *photo/Melissa Verge*

Ah Steve Murphy, when don't you score? *photo/Melissa Verge*

In game three, the Dragons soaked up the Waterboyz as they built a commanding four-goal lead right away. Giles opened up scoring for the Dragons, assisted by Ozturk.

Teammate Murphy followed suit moments later, when he notched his sixth goal of the series, on a dish from Minichillo. A minute later, Murphy also had a helper in Sugar's goal. Ozturk served time in the box for high sticking. Minichillo also scored to put the Dragons up 4-0. Eventually the Waterboyz managed to score when Mukaddam found Paluzzi, who beat a distracted Spence. Murphy scored again before the end of the half, assisted by Giles.

In the second period, the Dragons gained momentum on solo goals by Sugar and Ozturk. The Waterboyz refused to go quietly though, as Mundi scored on a pass from Giannobile. Mundi scored again on the powerplay, when the Dragons let out caged Sequiera, who committed a high-sticking penalty. Minichillo also served his second penalty of the series when he tripped a Waterboy. Mukaddam managed to score with the man advantage, assisted by Javis Gillingham. Two minutes later, Murphy scored his final goal of the series, unassisted. In the dying minutes of the series, Waterboy Panglia took an unnecessary penalty – and Sequiera finally figured out what to do with his stick – as Ozturk found him for Sequiera's second goal of the series to end the game at 9-4 for the Dragons.

After this series win, the Dragons take on Fury today in game one at 9 a.m.

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UTM water polo ties Scarborough

BY CHRIS NASH

Take that Scarborough! UTM tied Scarborough in a hard fought waterpolo match. photo/Chandra Gilbert

Coming off a shattering loss in their otherwise perfect season, the UTM interfaculty water polo team needed a good performance leading into the playoffs. Facing Scarborough, they knew it would be tough, but on arriving at the pool, being outnumbered three to one, the task seemed almost insurmountable. Having to play the entire game with no substitutions, the offence had to get off to a quick start. Unfortunately, Scarborough struck first, barely getting a skip shot under goalie Bjorn Nielson's outstretched arm. The front line for UTM of Kyle Magee, Chris Nash and Glenn Kawai moved the ball down the pool, and with a sweet give and go from Kawai, Magee shot and scored. He would add another shortly after to tie it at two. With a couple of fast breaks on sloppy defensive coverage, Nash fired a couple of shots past the enemy netminder just before half, but around this time too, UTM began to tire. Scarborough took advantage of their exhausted foe and tied the game at four. The next half saw Kawai with a quick shot to the top corner, leaving no chance for the goalie. UTM's defence of Wendy Jermyn and Brett Preston played hard to hold the one goal lead, but Scarborough's numbers got the best of them. Having a fresh line in every two minutes, Scarbs tied it at five and then took the lead. With only one minute remaining, Nielson passed to Nash who saw Kawai sprinting up the left hand side. Kawai broke past the defender with a sweet move, took the pass, and rifled a shot into the top corner. The ref ended the game, tied at six. UTM can hold their heads up, because despite their lack of players, they made up for it with their combination of determination, skill and guts.

Sami squashes opponents in Squash

BY SAMI GARIB

The Squash Singles Tournament was the first tournament of 2002, with the previous one being held in November of 2001. With 14 entries, this tournament lived up to all expectations with close and thrilling encounters. The tournament adopted a double elimination method, in order to give every player a second opportunity to prove his worth. The losing players were put down in a completely different table, where they battled for the honorable title, "winner of the losers." Every player had to lose two matches to be ousted from the tournament.

Favorite Sami Garib was given a run for his money by Jawaad Haroon, losing the second set by a score of 9-4. Garib, however, ended up winning a hard-fought game by 2-1. This meant the current Varsity star had to show his mantle against former Varsity member Tony So in the semi-finals. And this undoubtedly turned out to be the match of the tournament.

The rallies were spectacular, spanning anywhere from 30 seconds to a minute. However, Garib came back to steal the match away from So, who succumbed by a score of 2-1. On the other hand, the loser's table heated up. Haroon beat his first round opponent once again to gain a berth in the quarters. Haroon, with his superior stamina, pitted against Swapnil Rege. This game would come down to which player would throw in the towel first. As predicted, both players finished their games with Garib and So respectively and were ready to fight until the last point. The match could have potentially gone either way, with a fine line between shot selection and stamina. The result was 10-8, 9-7 in Rege's favour, though the match was much closer than what the score reveals. Next up was Rick McLaren. Though he pulled off the second set 9-2, he ended up losing the third and the deciding set. Nevertheless, he ensured himself fourth place in the tournament.

So, pushed off to the loser's table, defeated Rege for the second time in the competition to gain a berth in the final against Garib. The second game between the two was made even more exciting, due to the fact that both players were visibly tired, coming off tough games with the other competitors. Garib began well, taking the first set with relative ease 9-5. After that set, So never looked back. He wore down Garib to ultimately win the match by two games to one, with a final score of 5-9, 9-3 and 9-1. There is a new champion at UTM.

UTM crowned extramural soccer champs

BY CHANDRA GILBERT

It's a team effort...the UTM co-ed soccer team won an extramural soccer tournament over the break. photo/Chandra Gilbert

During Reading Week, UTM took on Scarborough and Georgian in indoor soccer action. UTM started the tournament facing Scarborough A. It was a tough fought game with UTM coming out on top 6-2. The Eagles faced Scarborough B in the first game of a back-to-back series. The B team didn't last long against UTM, as the scoring gates opened and the eagles easily won 10-3. Georgian came out strong against Scarborough and had problems scoring against UTM. UTM dominated this game, winning 8-2. UTM faced Scarborough A in the final game and beat the Scarborough team 9-3. UTM took top goalie in Ben Dobrowolski with a 2.2 goals per game. Catherine Hawkins and Stephanie Kishimoto took top scoring honours for the women in the tournament, and Steve Freitas and Rafal Pitrowski took top scoring for the UTM men. The winners enjoyed their T-shirts and pizza at the end of the day.

UTM men's hoopsters finish first

BY STEVE MANCHUR

The UTM Men's Division 1 interfaculty basketball team finished its regular season in style with a 71-54 defeat of Scarborough College in Scarborough. With the victory, the men's team finished at 10-2 and in first place.

The Scarborough game started tough for UTM as they only had five players to start the game, and it got complicated when Steve Guenther picked up two early fouls. However, UTM stayed composed and led for most of the first half. Reinforcements arrived shortly after the game started and seemed to lift the team's spirit. However, on the offensive end, UTM was unable to execute, and Scarborough took a small four-point lead into half time.

The second half started out as the first half ended, with both teams trading baskets. The score was tied at 53 with seven minutes to go, and after a Scarborough time out, Scarborough decided to full court press, which led to their demise. Unable to guard Stephen Chan in the open floor, UTM was able to fast break the Scarborough press and convert it into easy lay-ups. Scarborough seemed to be demoralized on how easy UTM was scoring, and their heads collectively started to hang as UTM outscored Scarborough 18-1 over the last seven minutes to pull out the victory.

Henry Rogers paced UTM offensively, with a game high 24 points. His twin tower equivalent, Jason Gloger pitched in 12 points, while Chan added nine. All eight players contributed significantly to this very important win, with strong games provided by Guenther, Geoff Richardson, Rufus Williams, Anand Patel and Andy Chen. UTM opens up its post season play with a quarter-final home game this Wednesday at 8:45 p.m. against Victoria College. Come out and support the men's basketball team on its quest for the championship.

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